

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mail Label No.: EL779890945US

Date of Deposit: November 13, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
Tamara Alcaraz

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Reissue application of:

James D. RALPH and Stephen TATAR

Patent No.: 5,882,350

Issue Date: March 16, 1999

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: POLYAXIAL PEDICLE SCREW  
HAVING A THREADED AND TAPERED  
COMPRESSION LOCKING  
MECHANISM

Examiner: D. Reip

Group Art Unit: 3731

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Patentees respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned reissue patent application. This is a continuation application of currently pending reissue application 09/774,915.